

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please ADD new claims 35-46 in accordance with the following:

35. (NEW) An error signal detection apparatus for an optical recording/reproducing system, comprising:

an objective lens through which light passes;

a first detector to detect the light incident from the objective lens, the first detector comprising a plurality of outer light portions and a plurality of inner light portions inside of the outer light portions; and

a signal processor comprising a first comparing unit to compare a phase of a sum of detection signals from one of the outer light portions located in a first diagonal direction and from one of the inner light portions located in a second diagonal direction, with a phase of a sum of detection signals from one of the outer light portions located in the second diagonal direction and from one of the inner light portions located in the first diagonal direction, to output a first comparison signal, the signal processor detecting a tilt error signal from the first comparison signal.

36. (NEW) The apparatus of claim 35, wherein the signal processor further comprises a second comparing unit to compare a phase of a sum of detection signals from another one of the outer light portions located in the first diagonal direction and from another one of the inner light portions located in the second diagonal direction, with a phase of a sum of detection signals from another one of the outer light portions located in the second diagonal direction and from another one of the inner light portions located in the first diagonal direction, to output a second phase comparison signal, the signal processor further detecting the tilt error signal from the second comparison signal.

37. (NEW) The apparatus of claim 36, wherein the signal processor comprises an adding unit to add the first and second phase comparison signals to generate the tilt error signal.

38. (NEW) The apparatus of claim 37, wherein the inner and outer light portions are located in a 2x4 matrix.

39. (NEW) The apparatus of claim 38, wherein the one of the outer light portions located in the first diagonal direction and the one of the inner light portions located in the second diagonal direction are located in a same row.

40. (NEW) The apparatus of claim 38, wherein the one of the outer light portions located in the first diagonal direction and the one of the inner light portions located in the second diagonal direction are located in different rows.

41. (NEW) The apparatus of claim 38, further comprising:  
a second detector to detect a tracking error signal from said first detector; and  
a subtracting unit to subtract the tracking error signal from the tilt error signal to generate the tilt error signal.

42. (NEW) The apparatus of claim 41, wherein the second detector detects the tracking error signal by comparing a phase of a sum of the inner light portions in the first diagonal direction and the outer light portions in the first diagonal direction with a phase of a sum of the inner light portions in the second diagonal direction and the outer light portions in the

second diagonal direction.

43. (NEW) An error signal detection apparatus for an optical recording/reproducing system, comprising:

an objective lens through which light passes;

a detector to detect the light incident from the objective lens, the detector comprising a plurality of outer light portions and a plurality of inner light portions inside of the outer light portions; and

a signal processor comprising a comparing unit to compare a phase of a sum of detection signals from two of the outer light portions located in a first diagonal direction and from two of the inner light portions located in a second diagonal direction, with a phase of a sum of detection signals from two of the outer light portions located in the second diagonal direction and from two of the inner light portions located in the first diagonal direction, to output a phase comparison signal, the signal processor detecting a tilt error signal from the comparison signal.

44. (NEW) An error signal detection method for an optical recording/reproducing system, comprising:

detecting light incident from an objective lens as a plurality of outer light regions and a plurality of inner light regions inside of the outer light regions; and

comparing a phase of a sum of detection signals from one of the outer light regions located in a first diagonal direction and from one of the inner light regions located in a second diagonal direction, with a phase of a sum of detection signals from one of the outer light regions located in the second diagonal direction and from one of the inner light regions located in the first diagonal direction, to output a first phase comparison signal, and detecting a tilt error signal from the first phase comparison signal.